

Miner Elementary School - "Sense of the Community" Survey

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Looking to the future...

1. Which values do you think Miner has, or should have?

- Excellence in education and achievement; safe and healthy learning environment; prioritize equity/diversity/inclusion. Prepare children with skills and awareness to be leaders in shaping their world.
- A focus on ensuring accountability among staff who treat students or other persons poorly. A focus on becoming a highly desired school while ensuring all members of the community are equitably supported. A focus on students first.
- Access/opportunity to individualized learning to ensure all students are academically challenged no matter their level.
 - Equity
 - Community
 - Excellence
 - Child-centered
- Equity, being welcoming, supporting the whole family
- Strong community school that provides wrap-around services and support to make sure all students have access to quality learning
- Care for students (has), approachable staff (has), engage community (has), focus on equity (has)
- Supporting an inclusive, diverse, equitable learning environment with access to opportunities for all students.
- Miner should have a sense of cohesion and not the division created by Mr. Jackson (clique)
- I think Miner has a stronger community feel.
- Positive culture and climate.
- Positive Culture & Climate is needed at Miner!!!
- Should have excellence! What we have now is a mediocre school leadership team.

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- I believe Miner has a strong group of parents who truly cares about all children and I believe it should be all parents who cares about all our children's education. Building a strong school community.
- I am encouraged by the focus of Miner and its Equity Team on attempting to address inequities at the school and in the community, and think this must continue to be a focus at the school. I love that it is a community school, and hope to see it continue to be a welcoming hub.
- Miner values equity and seems to do a good job promoting equity.
- Miner should be inclusive of all students.
- Miner has been such a 'safe-space' for my ECE children, and an extension of family given the trust we put the administration with our young children. This is a core value I feel Miner holds, and should maintain. We joined soon after Principal Jackson joined and appreciated his facetime with parents, and investment in our ECE experience.
- Community spirit, neighborhood connections
- Diversity and inclusion, teamwork, creativity

2. What do you want Miner to do, or to become?

- Our family would love to see Miner be a leading school of choice from PreK to 5th grade!
- A model of accountability for poor performance among teachers and staff. Ensure continuity as much as possible. For example, Mr. Lee would be a terrific leader for the school, to ensure continuity during constantly changing times among leadership.
- I want miner to become a school where all students can find an area of interest in which they excel. Can be academic or extracurricular. I want miner to be a place where children feel joy.
- I want Miner to continue to be a school that kids love attending, want it to prepare kids for whatever future they want, and want it to continue to be part of the greater community by connecting families with the services they need to support their scholar
- Keep setting a strong example of a quality public school that supports the community in which its students and families live.

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- Continue the moral and unity that Principal Jackson worked so hard to create over the last 4 years and build on it, not lose it or start over with a new principal. Continue to explore, grow and mature the equity at Miner and the greater Miner community.
- A provide a supportive environment and high quality education for students
- Actually act in the interest of the students and staff as a whole
- I want Miner to become a school were children will thrive through learning and play.
- A successful school. The scores have been falling and we lost a star in our rating.
- I would like Miner to become a positive place where scholars thrive and the adults love working there. Where the school leadership team is a working group and not a crew of the principal friends.
- A high achieving school that cares about the well being of all students, not the ones in ECE!
- I want Miner to become a school community where are children are treated equally and where our children education is priority.
- A place where students and parents want to stay beyond the first few years. The ECE program has been wonderful, and we will be back next year. Our plan is to stay through the entire program, but have heard that there may be reason to reconsider that decision. I would like Miner to be a school where every student feels welcomed, every family feels comfortable reaching out to the parents and administration, and every teacher feels supported.
- I wanted Miner to open? Have no idea what's going on there.
- Miner can become a positive place to learn for all students. It should be a safe place for students and adults.
- It is unfortunate that beyond ECE, there is such a drop in the continued 'cohort' of ECE students that continue with the school. This is only my view (not confirmed). What I would like for Miner to do (speaking as a community member) is to find a way to break that cycle (sharp drop after ECE years). I don't know how, and realize this is a medium-term goal vs an immediate short term solution. My feel is that impacts the community if the local Miner-zoned students aren't attending their own zoned school (prompting families to leave, or go private). Investment/engagement on behalf of the parents--> can be a powerful engine.
- Strong academically

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- Continue to strengthen above and flexibility / resilience

3. What do you want Miner's administration to do to help make #1 and #2 a reality?

- Support teachers, not DCPS Central Office. Eliminate all staff cliques so that more adults in the building are working as an actual team. Have credibility - do what you say you're going to do. Under promise, over deliver. Be a leader for the school community as a whole instead of a puppet for Central.
- With big changes in leadership and the tumult of the pandemic, I hope we'll be able to maintain continuity and continue to build trust with teachers, students, and families / caregivers for continuous improvement.
- Deal with poor performers/teachers who don't care about students and/or treat Black students differently or poorly.
- More clubs/activities, continue to grow/ foster sense of community, better planning/strategizing for the future.
- Continue to communicate frequently and openly with families and encourage ways for families to be involved, while providing ways for families that don't have that time to stay connected
- Listen to what parents and students need. Be flexible and open to input and suggestions. Maintain the open communication policy that Principal Jackson has implemented so successfully. Keep school doors open for community events as they are now.
- Careful attention to new principal selection process, have Bruce Jackson be a part of that (I hear he will be), include the broader Miner community in the selection (I hear that is the plan). Healthy dialog and willingness to engage equity and race conversations and needs. Continue the course even as difficulties arise (seems this has been happening, but making it a priority in on going years)
- Continue to hire good teachers and a new principal that support these values and goals.
- Integrity is essential.
- Equity and Inclusion
- Support teachers, create a positive environment

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- New leadership! Clean house. Allow Mr. Lee to go be great someone else.
- Replace the AP as well. Mr. Lee should not panel for the job.
- Treat all children equally also do some kind of pre-intervention and not wait until things gets to it's worse with children of color. I believe we should trying to reach out to other parents and hold them accountable to commit to building a stronger community.
- Work to get to know every family and every student at Miner and meet them where they are.
- Miner needs to communicate.
- We're still virtual and have no idea how many kids are in-school or what sort of protocols the school is following. We had no idea if we had some chance of returning to in-person learning, or what that would entail if we did.
- We see our neighbors' kids going off to in-person learning at other DCPS schools every morning, but we don't even know what Miner is doing.
- We didn't even receive notification about a positive covid case in early April. We did hear about one in late April.
- About that -- are Miner staff refusing to get vaccinated or what? Because we take our kids to get tons of shots in order for them to attend Miner and Nurse Gray is a stickler about these records.
- Administration can focus on all grades.
- The neighborhood/zone continues to evolve. Continued investment with the community (holiday sale, cleanup, major fundraiser (look to Cluster school example of the Capitol Hill Classic, or auction at Eastern Market). Targeting new members to the Hill, longtime families would help with expanding the message that Miner is an excellent option for parents. I think that Miner could benefit from an initiative to strengthen its brand/image. Communication campaigns, use of testimonials/social media, relationships with local chefs (Union Market area/The Roost area). Pulsing the community (using MOTH listserv).
- More focus on academic challenges that are also fun

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Are you a... (optional, select all that apply)

19 responses

